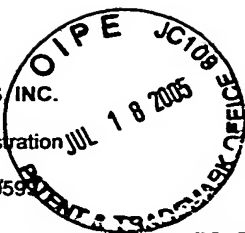


AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES INC.  
Legal Department, DL429  
Intellectual Property Administration  
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Loveland, Colorado 80537-0599



ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 10030929-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Dale W. Schroeder

Serial No.: 10/810,067

Examiner: William C. Choi

Filing Date: March 26, 2004

Group Art Unit: 2873

Title: BUFFERS FOR LIGHT MODULATION ELEMENTS IN SPATIAL LIGHT MODULATORS

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR RESPONSE/AMENDMENT

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is/are the following in the above-identified application:

- ☒ Response/Amendment ☐ Petition to extend time to respond  
☐ New fee as calculated below ☐ Supplemental Declaration  
☒ No additional fee (Address envelope to "Mail Stop Amendments")  
☒ Other: Two Postcards (Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_)

CLAIMS AS AMENDED BY OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY						
(1) FOR	(2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(5) PRESENT EXTRA	(6) RATE	(7) ADDITIONAL FEES
TOTAL CLAIMS	32	MINUS	32	= 0	X 50	\$ 0
INDEP. CLAIMS	2	MINUS	3	= 0	X 200	\$ 0
<input type="checkbox"/> FIRST PRESENTATION OF A MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM					+ 360	\$ 0
EXTENSION FEE	1 <sup>ST</sup> MONTH 120.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <sup>ND</sup> MONTH 450.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <sup>RD</sup> MONTH 1020.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <sup>TH</sup> MONTH 1590.00 <input type="checkbox"/>		
OTHER FEES						\$ 0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT						\$ 0

Charge \$ 0 to Deposit Account 50-1078. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any over payment to Deposit Account 50-1078 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. Additionally please charge any fees to Deposit Account 50-1078 under 37 CFR 1.16, 1.17, 1.19, 1.20 and 1.21. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale W. Schroeder

By

Holly L. Rudnick  
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being Deposited with the United States Postal Service as First class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date of Deposit: July 13, 2005

Typed Name: Phil Rudnick

Signature:

Reg. No. 43,065

Date: July 13, 2005

Telephone No. 214-387-8097



Docket No. 10030929-1  
Serial No. 10/810,067  
(AGIL01-00214)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the Application of:

Dale W. Schroeder

Serial No. 10/810,067

Filed: March 26, 2004

Examiner: William C. Choi

Group Art Unit: 2873

For: BUFFERS FOR LIGHT MODULATION ELEMENTS IN SPATIAL LIGHT  
MODULATORS

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited  
with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an  
envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner  
for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date of Deposit: July 13, 2005

Signature:

Phil Rudrick

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

A Restriction Requirement was mailed in the present patent application on June 27,  
2005, with a shortened time period for responding ending on July 27, 2005.

The Restriction Requirement identified the following groups of the claimed invention:

Group I: Claims 1-21, drawn to an electronic circuit

Group II: Claims 22-32, drawn to a method

In response to the Restriction Requirement, the Applicants provisionally elect the  
claims of Group I for prosecution on the merits WITH TRAVERSE.

The Restriction Requirement states that the inventions in Group I and Group II are related as a combination and subcombination. The Restriction Requirement further cites MPEP 806.05(c) as providing the basis for determining distinctiveness between Group I and Group II. Specifically, MPEP 806.05(c) requires the Examiner to demonstrate that both (1) the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed for patentability; and (2) the subcombination has utility either by itself or in other and different relations. The Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has not made such a showing.

On page 3 of the Restriction Requirement, the Examiner provides a basis for both requirements for combination-subcombination by stating: “combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed because the method can utilize any circuit configuration able to apply and buffer a strobe signal,” and “[t]he subcombination has separate utility such as addressing circuitry for electrically addressed components other than that involving photolithography.”

However, the Applicants are unsure how the circuit claims in Claims 1-21 can be considered a subcombination of the method claims in Claims 22-32. In MPEP 806.05(a), the terms “combination” and “subcombination” are defined as: “A combination is an organization of which a subcombination or element is a part.” For example, in MPEP 806.05(b), a combination is referred to as including elements A and B, whereas a subcombination is referred to as including only element B.

Claims 1 and 22 are reproduced herein below for the convenience of the Examiner:

1. An electronic circuit, comprising:

circuit elements arranged in an array of rows and columns, said circuit elements being alterable in response to data stored therein and configured to shift data therebetween;

a strobe line electrically coupled to ones of said circuit elements constituting a set to provide thereto a strobe signal to cause said ones of said circuit elements in said set to shift the data to additional ones of said circuit elements outside said set; and

a strobe buffer connected between said strobe line and at least two of said circuit elements within said set to buffer the strobe signal on said strobe line and provide a buffered strobe signal to said at least two of said circuit elements

22. A method for performing photolithography, said method comprising:

loading data representing an image into light modulation elements arranged in sets;

altering ones of the light modulation elements in response to the data loaded thereinto to transfer an instance of the image onto a substrate;

applying to the light modulation elements in each one of said sets a respective strobe signal to shift the data to the light modulation elements in another of said sets, said applying comprising buffering the strobe signal among at least two of the light modulation elements within said one of said sets; and

altering ones of the light modulation elements in response to the data shifted thereinto to transfer another instance of the image onto the substrate.

As can be seen, Claim 1 clearly recites the elements of “a strobe line electrically coupled to ones of said circuit elements constituting a set” and “a strobe buffer connected between said strobe line and at least two of said circuit elements within said set.” Neither of these elements is recited in Claim 22. Since Claim 1 includes elements not recited in Claim 22, it is unclear how Claim 1 can be considered a “subcombination” of Claim 22.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the restriction requirement.

If any issue arises, or if the Examiner has any suggestions for expediting allowance of this application, the Applicants respectfully invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at *hrudnick@texaspatents.com*.

Respectfully submitted,

DALE W. SCHROEDER

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

7/13/2005



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